

STREATHAM TO SKIPTON FIRE RECOVERY UPDATE



Number 11: Wednesday 15 April 2026

CORANGAMITE 5593 7100 | PYRENEES 1300 797 363 | ARARAT 5355 0200

UPCOMING EVENTS

Farmers Take A Break BBQ

Friday 17 April, 5.30pm

Stoneleigh CFA shed

Food and drinks provided.

Contact Deb Bain on 0438 402215 for more information.

IN-PERSON SUPPORT

Grampians Community Health will be at Skipton's Bluestone Café weekly from Tuesday – Thursday from 10am -2pm.

Pyrenees is opening a Community Hub at the Stoneleigh CFA Shed on Thursdays between 12pm-2pm.

COMMUNITY EVENTS FUNDING

Councils have funding available for community events that bring people together and support community recovery. If you have an idea for a community event, contact your Council's recovery team.

FIRE RECOVERY ENQUIRIES

For support enquiries, please contact your local Council.

Pyrenees Shire - 1300 797 363

Corangamite Shire - 5593 7100

Ararat Rural City - 5355 0200

If you are looking to lodge a claim for financial assistance contact:

- Services Australia for Australian Government Disaster Recovery Payments or Disaster Recovery Allowance servicesaustralia.gov.au

The Streatham Recovery Hub is open on Fridays from 1-4pm at the Streatham Hall.

LOOK OVER THE FARM GATE PROGRAM

The Look Over the Farm Gate program provides between \$1500 and \$5000 grants to farming communities to deliver events and initiatives to support mental health and wellbeing and bring people together.

Grants applications close on 20 May and may close earlier if fully subscribed.

The program is managed by the National Centre for Farmer Health. For more information, go to farmerhealth.org.au

COMMUNITY GRANTS

Applications for the 2026-2027 [Corangamite Community Grants](#) funding round are now open, closing on Monday 4 May 2026.

For more information go to corangamite.vic.gov.au/Community/Grants-and-funding

OPEN MIC SESSIONS

Victorians impacted by the 2026 summer fires can register to speak directly to members of Parliament during a series of open mic sessions to be held:

Tuesday 21 April, Colac, 1pm-2pm

Wednesday, 22 April, Natimuk/Quantong, 3pm-4pm

Friday, 24 April, Alexandra, 12.30pm-1.30pm.

People can register to speak at parliament.vic.gov.au/summerfiresopenmic by Thursday 16 April.

WATER TANK REBATE PROGRAM

Rebates of up to \$1500 for cleaning tanks and roofs are also available until 29 May.

For more information, go to water.vic.gov.au/grants/recovery-water-tank-rebates

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FIRE RECOVERY FUND

The Skipton to Streatham Fire Recovery Group and Community Bank Beaufort has established a dedicated account to manage donations for people affected by the Streatham-Skipton bushfire.

All funds raised will support fire affected people and communities.

Details:

Name: SKIPTON TO STREATHAM FIRE RECOVERY

BSB: 633-000

Account number: 241004076

CLEAN UP SUPPORT

The Victorian Government is providing a free, voluntary, and tailored clean-up program for residential homes, businesses, and community assets destroyed or heavily damaged by the January 2026 bushfires.

The program includes hazardous material removal, demolition, and site clearing for uninsured or underinsured properties. Register by calling 1800 560 760. Eligibility criteria apply.

REBUILDING AFTER FIRE

If you need help rebuilding after fire, including planning exemptions and planning and building permits, contact [Corangamite on 5593 7100](tel:55937100).

For [Pyrenees](https://www.pyrenees.vic.gov.au/Emergencies/After/Bushfire-Support-and-Advice) residents, go to [pyrenees.vic.gov.au/Emergencies/After/Bushfire-Support-and-Advice](https://www.pyrenees.vic.gov.au/Emergencies/After/Bushfire-Support-and-Advice). [Pyrenees](https://www.pyrenees.vic.gov.au/Emergencies/After/Bushfire-Support-and-Advice) will soon issue Building Orders to ensure safety at some affected properties. If you receive a letter and have any queries, contact 1300 797 363.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

If you need assistance with general waste or steel collection, [Pyrenees](https://www.pyrenees.vic.gov.au) and [Corangamite](https://www.corangamite.vic.gov.au) will provide a skip bin or schedule a steel collection. Please contact [Pyrenees on 1300 797 363](tel:1300797363) or [Corangamite on 5593 7100](tel:55937100) to lodge a request.

RELIEF DRINKING WATER - CLOSES 22 APRIL

If essential water was taken from your property under the direction of CFA by either a private tanker belonging to another landholder or you filled up your own tanker under the direction of CFA, you can apply for essential water replacement.

Further information including the application form, can be found at vic.gov.au/water-relief-and-replacement or contact your local Council.

EMERGENCY RECOVERY SUPPORT PROGRAM (DFFH)

The Emergency Recovery Support Program helps people and families after a major emergency.

Recovery support officers can help you with things like:

- health and wellbeing services
- financial advice and assistance
- finding local services
- insurance and legal questions
- registering for government services.

Support can include advice, referrals, or more involved help if needed.

You can call the Emergency Recovery Hotline on 1800 560 760 or you can also contact your local council.

GRAMPIANS COMMUNITY HEALTH

Grampians Community Health has recovery support officers that can help to guide on your recovery journey by connecting you with services and programs.

Grampians Community Health is also the designated service provider for wellbeing and mental health support.

For more information or support, contact 5358 7400.

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BLAZE AID

The BlazeAid camp is now based at the Bradvale Recreation Reserve, 549 Crawfords Rd, Bradvale.

With just over 30 volunteers on site, they are ready to help with repairing internal and external fences. This includes clean up of fences.

They can do parts of the work or work with contractors to get fencing repaired quicker. Contact Christine Male on 0418 745 994 to learn more or register for assistance.

RURAL FINANCIAL COUNSELLING SERVICES

The RFCS can support farmers with applications for and assistance with:

- Various grants available through drought and fire recovery programs
- Negotiations with insurers and lenders
- Low interest Regional Investment Corporation loans
- Developing farm budgets and strategic plans
- Reassess budgets with the rising cost of fuel and fertiliser
- Succession planning
- Many other services which they are familiar with, and which help farmers manage their business.

Call 1300 735 578 or visit wswracs.com.au

LEGAL AND INSURANCE SUPPORT

These agencies provide free legal assistance, including help with insurance claims.

Allied Justice 1800 466 488 or alliedjustice.org.au

Disaster Legal Aid 1800 113 432 or disasterlegalhelp.org.au

Australian Financial Complaints Authority
afca.org.au/

IT'S OK TO NOT BE OK

It's understandable to feel concerned or experience strong emotions throughout the recovery process, particularly for people who have been impacted by bushfires and other events in the past.

Such events can bring back difficult memories and feelings, including fear, sadness or loss. Everyone responds and recovers differently, and for some, that process may take time.

If you need someone to talk to, the following services are there to help.

GRAMPIANS COMMUNITY HEALTH:

Head to Health: 1800 595 212

Step Thru Care: 5338 4500

RURAL AID: 1300 175 594

MENSLINE: 1300 789 978

**NATIONAL CENTRE FOR FARMER
HEALTH:** 1300 375 330

1800RESPECT: 1800 737 732

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES:

24/7 1800 808 284

BEYONDBLUE: 1300 224 636

LIFELINE: 13 11 14

KID'S HELPLINE:

1800 551 800

For more information and resources visit:

Corangamite
go.vic.gov.au/3YDCaOq

Pyrenees
go.vic.gov.au/4t0gFW7

Ararat
go.vic.gov.au/3P1UrmI